



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

The department as a collective once again made significant contributions across the CARE (clinical/quality; administration/leadership; research/scholarship; education/teaching) pillars in 2023. We began to realize successes in many of the priority areas within the DOM Strategic Plan. Several of these accomplishments are highlighted in the 2023 DOM annual report. I look forward to seeing what new discoveries, innovations, and practice changes department members accomplish together in 2024.

As we start a new year, my hope for all department members is that you continue to find moments of joy within the important work you do every day. Although there are many challenges facing the healthcare system, together we can continue to improve the health of Albertans and Canadians.

Please review the winter newsletter for some departmental highlights and important announcements.



*Dr. Jayna Holroyd-Leduc
Zone Clinical and
Academic Department Head*

ANNUAL REPORT



OUR 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT IS NOW ON OUR WEBSITE AND AVAILABLE TO VIEW. [Read Now>>](#)

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COMING SOON!! FEBRUARY HEALTHY HEARTS CHALLENGE

Get planning your tactics for the department wellness challenge coming up next month. Also start building your teams of up to 3 people and get ready to sign up soon.

...we're working hard on creating the prize packages right now!



PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED UNSUNG HERO'S

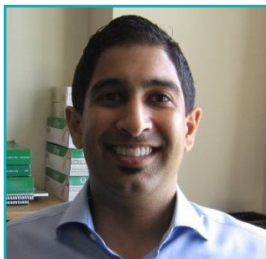
- **December:** Sonia Cerquozzi, Susan Kinnear
- **November:** Rameez Kabani, Paul MacEachern, Humberto Jijon
- **October:** Bayan Missaghi, Brendan Kerr, Yamini Murthy, Christian Turbide, Kevin Solverson
- **September:** Alejandra Boscan, Chris Oleynick, Pin Li

NOMINATE AN UNSUNG HERO

Please continue to nominate your colleagues who make your life a little easier in the Department of Medicine. We want to recognize all the unsung hero's in our department and they will be announced during Medical Grand Rounds on Tuesday mornings. **Please email Dr. Chandra Thomas Chandra.thomas@ahs.ca your nominations** and a few words about why you're nominating that person.

LEADERSHIP

Please join us in congratulating the following members to their Leadership Roles.



LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT: DOM ASSOCIATE VICE CHAIR FOR HEALTH ANALYTICS QUALITY AND SAFETY

The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce that **Dr. Mayur Brahmania** will be taking on the role of **DOM Associate Vice Chair for Health Analytics Quality & Safety** as of **November 1**.

Dr. Brahmania is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Divisions of Gastroenterology & Transplant Medicine and member of the O'Brien Institute for Public Health. Dr. Brahmania has been involved with the Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) campaign as the Canadian Association for the Study of Liver Quality Lead where he led the development of the 'top 5' list recommendations for Hepatology and his group is currently working to develop strategies to benchmark quality indicators for liver disease, including HCC across Canada. In 2021, he was awarded the Young Scholar in Quality award from Canadian Association of Gastroenterology.

In his spare time, Dr. Brahmania enjoys playing and watching basketball, barbeques and spending time with his family – his daughter Ella and wife Shelley.



LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT: DOM VICE CHAIR RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce that **Dr. Carla Coffin** has taken on the role of **Department of Medicine Vice Chair Research & Scholarship** as of **January 1, 2024**.

Dr. Coffin is a Professor of Medicine within the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Department of Medicine with a cross-appointment in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Infectious Diseases. She is the Chair of Gastrointestinal Research Group, the Calvin, Phoebe and Joan Snyder Institute for Chronic Diseases. Dr. Coffin is also the Medical Director of the Viral Hepatitis Clinic.

In her spare time, Dr. Coffin enjoys time with her family – her two children Stephanie and William, her husband Chad and miniature yorkie Bounce. Fun fact, Dr. Coffin and her husband are both New-foundlanders and her home town is Joe Batts Arm, the location of the famous Fogo Island Inn.

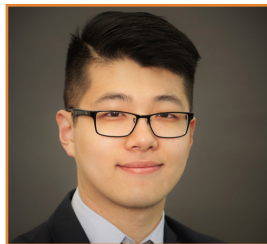
AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



MCLEOD DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Maria Bacchus on being awarded the CSM's McLeod Distinguished Achievement Award. This award recognizes the extraordinary contribution made by you to the Cumming School of Medicine over the past two years. Such recognition is given to only a few of CSM faculty and is awarded for excellence in teaching.



COCHRANE DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Christopher Ma on being awarded the CSM's Cochrane Distinguished Achievement Award. This award recognizes the extraordinary contribution made by you to the Cumming School of Medicine over the past two years. Such recognition is given to only a few of our faculty and is awarded to you for excellence in research.



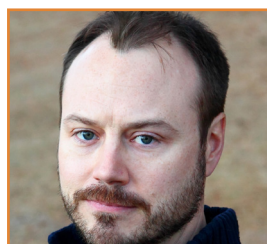
2022-2023 DR. NORM SCHACHAR LONG-SERVICE AWARD IN CME&PD

Congratulations Dr. David B Hogan on receiving the 2022-23 Dr. Norm Schachar Long-Service Award in CME & PD. This award is presented by the Office of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development to an individual or group who has made long-term commitments to the educational enterprise of CME&PD, UCalgary.



CGLCC 2SLGBTQI+ BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR 2023

Congratulations to Dr. Caley Shukalek on being awarded the LGBTQ2S+ Business Leader of the Year Award from Canada's 2SLGBTQI+ Chamber of Commerce. The Business Leader of the Year award celebrates an individual in business who has made a significant contribution to the 2SLGBTQI+ community in Canada. The contribution may be through business or volunteer activities with a corporation, educational institution, association, or non-profit agency.



LYNN MCINTYRE OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. David Campbell for receiving the Lynn McIntyre Outstanding Service Award for his critical role in shaping the O'Brien Institute of Public Health's research landscape and fostering excellence in public health endeavours.

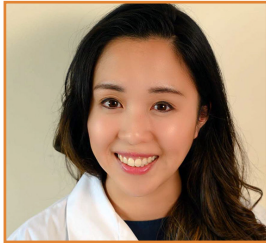
AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



HIGHLY CITED RESEARCHERS

Congratulations to Dr. Gilaad Kaplan, Dr. Remo Panaccione & Dr. Marcello Tonelli on making the Clarivate Web of Science list of Highly Cited Researchers. Of the world's population of scientists and social scientists, Highly Cited Researchers are one in 1000.



AVENUE CALGARY TOP 40 UNDER 40

Congratulations to two Department of Medicine members who this year have made Avenue Calgary's Top 40 Under 40 list!

Dr. [Nauzer Forbes](#) and Dr. [May Choi](#). Click on their names to read more.



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STUDY OF LIVER DISEASES PRESIDENTIAL DISTINCTION POSTER AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Swain along with Dr. Wagdi Almishri on receiving the American Association for the study of liver diseases' Presidential Distinction Poster Award recognizing research classified in the top 5% of scored poster abstracts among thousands from around the world. [Read More](#)

RESPIRATORY MEDICINE DIVISION ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT

Bob Cowie Award: Awarded to Dr. Mitesh Thakrar for outstanding academic leadership contributions by a midcareer member of the respirology division.

Division of Respiratory Medicine Citizen Award: Congratulations to Dr. Mike Ramsahai, Dr. Alex Chee, Dr. Joel Chen, Dr. Eric Leung and Dr. Kevin Huntley* recognizing selfless contributions of these individuals to improve the lives of their division members. These 5 individuals spend countless hours developing tips and how-to guides for Connect Care users in the division to enhance their understanding.

FMC Above and Beyond Award: Congratulations to Dr. Marcus Povitz,

SHC Above and Beyond Award: Congratulations Dr. Tara Lohmann,

RGH Above and Beyond Award: Congratulations Dr. Kate Skolnik,

PLC Above and Beyond Award: Congratulations to Dr. Andrea Loewen and Kevin Solverson,

The above site specific awards are chosen by the site lead of the respective site in recognition of a division member who is always making extra contributions to their site and to the division that enriches patient care and the lives of their colleagues.

John Chan Award: Congratulations to Dr. Nick Romatowski chosen by the pulmonary fellows, the award recognizes outstanding contributions in the teaching of pulmonary fellows during their two years of training.

End of an Era Award: Congratulations to Dr. Kris Fraser, Dr. Naushad Hirani, Dr. Tara Lohmann In recognition of the end of a 50 year commitment by the Division of Respiratory Medicine to lead and teach the cardiorespiratory course (MDCN 307) in the undergraduate curriculum, this award recognizes existing division members who had served as course chairs.

DOM & IMRP AWARDS DINNER RECAP

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months

We were lucky to host our awards evening in person this year at the Fairmont Palliser in November. A huge congratulations to all award winners for 2023.

IM CLERKSHIP AWARDS

- Dr. Christine Banage - Unsung Hero
- Dr. Michelle Jung - Unsung Hero

SITE SPECIFIC CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

- Dr. Shane Devlin - Dr. Howard McEwen Clinical Excellence Award (PLC)
- Dr. Brandie Walker - Dr. John Dawson Clinical Excellence Award (FMC)
- Dr. Michelle Persuad - Dr. Terry Groves Clinical Excellence Award (RGH)
- Dr. Tara Lohmann - South Health Campus Clinical Excellence Award
- Dr. Susan Poelman - Dr. Tom Enta Clinical Excellence Award Community
- Dr. Steven Thomson - Dr. Martin Atkinson Clinical Excellence Award (RRDTC)

SPECIAL DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Dr. Chandra Thomas - Dr. Brenda Hemmelgarn Professionalism Award
- Dr. Sana Ghaznavi - Dr. John M. Conly Innovation Award
- Dr. Aziz Shaheen - Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Award
- Dr. Jori Hardin - Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Award
- Dr. Ranjani Somayaji - Early Career Clinical Excellence Award
- Dr. Paula Pearce - Dr. Jane Lemaire Physician Wellness Award
- Dr. Kate Colizza - Citizenship Award

IMRP FACULTY AWARDS

- Dr. Amber Fripp - Golden Bull Award
- Dr. Michael Bosch - Silver Finger Award
- Dr. Michael Walsh - Silver Tongue Award
- Dr. Robert Hurowitz - Rookie of the Year Award
- Dr. Andre Ferland - Ectopic Award
- Dr. Ben Wilson - Repeat Offender Award
- Dr. Alexander Leung - Research Preceptor Award
- Dr. David Ward & Dr. Brett Edwards - Work-Life Balance Award
- Ms. Kristine Ferguson - Allied Health Award
- Dr. Tavish Barnes - Rural Teaching Excellence Award

IMRP AWARDS - RESIDENT CLERKSHIP

- Dr. Faraz Sachedina - Benevolent Heart Award
- Dr. Tri Dinh - Resident Research Award
- Dr. Emma Spence - Resident Professionalism Award
- Dr. Chad Kimmett - Resident Medical Education Award
- Dr. Chloe Lim Resident Wellness Award
- Dr. Nicole Brockman & Dr. Kaleigh Ducas-Mowchun - Resident Leadership & Citizenship Award

AWARDS DINNER RECAP

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements



CONNECT CARE DROP IN SESSIONS

Department of Medicine Connect Care Drop In Sessions are running weekly on Thursdays at 12:15pm on Zoom. Each session will review tips/workflows relevant to DOM Members (Medical Staff and Residents) followed by Connect Care Q & A.

If you have a tip/workflow that you would like presented or a question answered please email Dr. Chandra Thomas Chandra.thomas@ahs.ca. Similarly, if you are interested in facilitating a session for your colleagues please also reach out to Dr. Thomas.

Joining instructions:

Zoom Link: <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/66239923329?pwd=NmpvemJqN-0FKR2wyKzc4U24yVnhqQT09>

Meeting ID: 662 3992 3329

Passcode: 236872

One tap mobile: +15873281099,,66239923329# Canada

Dial in for audio only: +1 587 328 1099 Canada | Meeting ID: 662 3992 3329

[You can also check out the archive here](#)

INTERNAL MEDICINE CLERKSHIP UPDATE



**FROM DR. BONNIE MEATHERALL
INTERNAL MEDICINE CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR**

On January 15 we will be welcoming the clerks from the class of 2025 to their first clinical rotation of their clerkship. For our subspecialty members, you may notice a change to the clerk ITER evaluation process. For many years now, the clerks rotating on MTU have received a brief mid-rotation ITER from their preceptor(s). This has been extremely helpful in identifying clerks who are not on track for successfully completing their MTU rotation. This feedback mechanism allows for our clerks to be provided with the resources and supports from the UME in order to make the necessary improvements to pass their rotation. The UME will be implementing a new mid-point evaluation for the clerks on subspecialty rotations as well i.e. after their first week of the rotation. The ITER is very brief so should not be onerous to complete. It is important that it is completed in “in real time” and discussed with clerk directly, particularly if there are significant concerns with their performance. If you have significant concerns, I would encourage you to reach out to myself directly as well.

Department of Medicine Physician Wellness Initiative



Well Doc Alberta

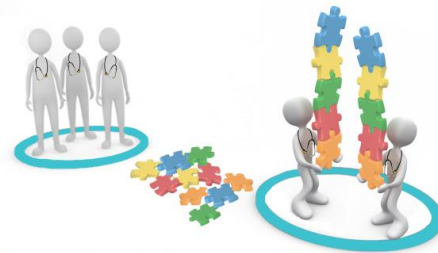
Shaping the future of physician wellness, together

You are invited! DoM TRANSITION IN PRACTICE (TIP) SUPPORT *Exploring Mid-Career Physician Experiences*

We are continuing our Career Transitions supper meeting series, (commensality groups). For this session we will focus on mid-career physicians who have been in practice for 7-18 years.

Commensality groups are considered a best practice physician wellness system-level intervention.

These moderated sessions provide opportunities to explore factors that challenge mid-career physicians, with an aim to generate system-level wellness strategies.



Transitions in Practice (TIP)

Dr. Jane Lemaire MD FRCPC, University of Calgary/Well Doc Alberta

Dr. Sheela Vijay MD FRCPC, University of Alberta

Department of Medicine Representative: TBD

Thursday, February 29, 2024

18:00 – 20:30 MST

In-person at W21C Multipurpose Room

Please register here: <https://dom-tip-midcareer.eventbrite.ca>

Dinner will be provided by the Department of Medicine.

*****As seating is limited to 25, pre-session registration is required.***

Department of Medicine

Cumming School of Medicine
9th Floor North Tower, 1403 29 Street NW
Calgary, AB T2N 2T9

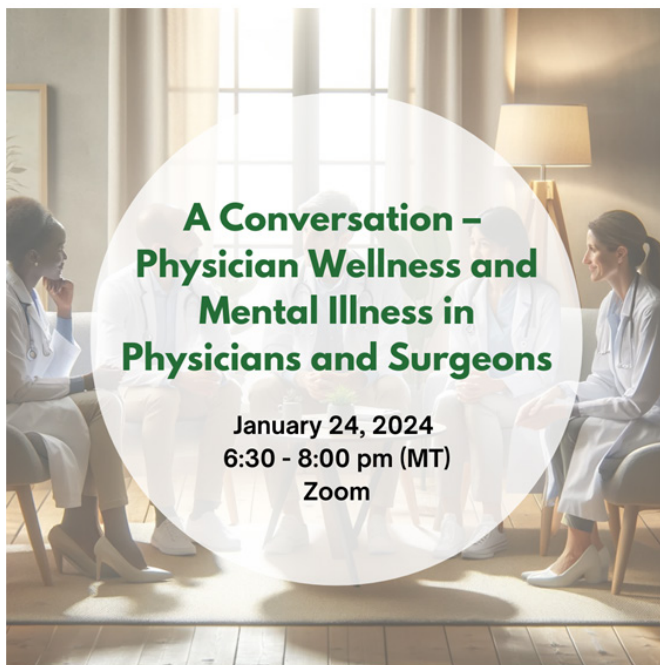
Well Doc Alberta

Shaping the future of physician wellness, together

A CONVERSATION - PHYSICIAN WELLNESS AND MENTAL ILLNESS IN PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS'

Presented by Well Doc Alberta, the Alberta Medical Association's Physician and Family Support Program, and Alberta Health Services | [Register here](#)

Join us for a conversation about the challenges that physicians and surgeons face in maintaining their well-being, the occupational hazards and expectations of invincibility, and the stigma associated with reaching out for help, as well as strategies and resources to support well-being.



When

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM MT

Virtual Workshop via Zoom

Learning Objectives

After the session, participants will be able to:

1. Summarize key points about mental illness for physicians and surgeons
2. Describe how occupational distress may threaten well-being
3. Summarize how stigma and professional culture may undermine well-being
4. Describe concrete strategies and resources to support well-being

Please Note: This session is open to all physicians, residents, and medical students in Alberta.

Workshop Facilitators

Dr. Jane Lemaire MD FRCPC, Co-Director, Well Doc Alberta | **Dr. Rachel Grimminck** MD FRCPC DABPN CGP, Physician Associate, Well Doc Alberta | **Dr. Gail Darling** MD FRCSC FACS, Collaborator, Well Doc Alberta | **Dr. Terrie Brandon** MD CCFP, Program and Clinical Co-Director, Physician and Family Support Program, Alberta Medical Association | **Dr. Erica Dance** MD FRCPC DABEM, Program and Clinical Co-Director, Physician and Family Support Program, Alberta Medical Association | **Dr. Sharron Spicer** MD FRCPC CCPE, Associate Chief Medical Officer, Physician Experience, Alberta Health Services

FOOTHILLS CAMPUS COMMUNITY PANTRY

CSM continues to host a Community Pantry in the Health Sciences Centre Atrium (by the staircase near the Hippocrates statue). If you would like to donate to help stock the pantry, please see the list of [suggested items on the website](#). This is a community initiative and therefore any items should just be added directly into the pantry (items are not collected).



Community supporting community in accessing food, hygiene and cleaning products

Location: Health Sciences Centre Atrium (Hippocrates Mall) by staircase

Share what you can

Donate non-perishable items such as canned food, pasta, and peanut butter directly to the pantry. Toiletry items are also welcome!

Provide items in their original undamaged packaging. Please - no expired items, open or broken packages, or dented or unlabelled cans.

Take what you need

All members of the Foothills campus are welcome to take what they need from the pantry at any time and as often as needed.

MINDFUL PRACTICE IN MEDICINE WORKSHOP

February 21st, 2024 6:00pm to February 24th, 2024 2:00pm ** Registration deadline is January 21st, 2024 midnight. After this deadline, registrations will not be accepted.**

In-person at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

This is the second time the CSM Centre for Mindfulness is offering the workshop as the first workshop was extremely popular and quickly filled. We would like to give the CSM clinicians the opportunity to register before it is offered to the public. More information is available on the course website: <https://events.ucalgary.ca/cumming/cme-pd/event/450091-mindful-practice-in-medicine-workshop>



PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT CIHR SPRING 2024 PROJECT GRANT COMPETITION

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant program is designed to capture ideas with the greatest potential for advances in fundamental or applied health-related knowledge, health care, health systems, and/or health outcomes by supporting projects of research proposed and conducted by individual researchers or groups of researchers in all areas of health.

The best ideas may stem from new, incremental, innovative, and/or high-risk lines of inquiry or knowledge translation approaches.

Registration for the [CIHR Spring 2024 Project Grant competition](#) (via ResearchNet) opens on January 10, 2024.

Anticipated Competition Deadlines:

- CIHR Registration Deadline (via ResearchNet): February 7, 2024
- RSO Internal Deadline (Full Applications): March 4, 2024

CIHR PROJECT GRANT SPRING 2024 INFORMATION SESSIONS

The Grant Development team will be holding 2 information sessions to help applicants (and teams) prepare for the Spring 2024 CIHR Project Grant competition.

Please encourage any staff or trainees who will be assisting with your application to attend.

Both sessions will highlight recent changes to the CIHR Project Grant competition and include tips for completing and submitting your Project Grant registration and application.

Content will be similar in both sessions. Session 1 will be virtual. Session 2 will be held in person.

SESSION 1:

January 23, 2024

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Zoom

[Register](#)

SESSION 2:

February 5, 2024

10:00 - 11:30 am

Zoom

[Register](#)

NSERC ANNOUNCES IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ALLIANCE GRANTS PROGRAM

NSERC Alliance grants were launched in 2019 to encourage university researchers to collaborate with partner organizations from the private, public or not-for-profit sectors.

By partnering with organizations that can use their work, researchers can turn their discoveries into impact. In 2022–23, NSERC evaluated the program through surveys, consultations and interviews with stakeholders, leading to the following changes in order to:

- remove barriers to collaboration
- champion more research partnerships
- provide efficient and responsive proposal assessment
- strengthen relationships with the research community
- ensure inclusive research support

The first visible change is new names for Alliance grants cost sharing options 1 and 2. This rebranding makes it easier to distinguish between the two options.

Alliance Advantage (formerly cost sharing option 1) is designed for partner-driven projects. The grants support the objectives of Alliance with a focus on the partners' goals, with at least one partner sharing in the costs of research. NSERC will contribute up to 66.7% (2:1 leverage) of the project's direct costs for successful applications. For more information, see [Alliance Advantage](#).

Alliance Society (formerly cost sharing option 2) is designed for projects with societal impact as the main driver. NSERC covers 100% of these project costs. For more information, see Alliance Society.

Please view the full list of [changes at this link](#).

Webinars:

NSERC will offer webinars for research grants officers and potential applicants to present these changes on January 23 and 31, 2024 (in French) and on January 24 and 30, 2024 (in English). As a result of these changes, we have set up new Research funding database entries:

1. [NSERC Alliance Advantage \(formerly Option 1\) - Rolling intake](#)
2. [NSERC Alliance Society \(formerly option 2\) - Rolling intake](#)

For additional information or questions, contact Priya Jaggi parneetpriya.jaggi@ucalgary.ca

GRANT BASICS: HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH GRANT

We will guide you through the University of Calgary's internal processes and required approvals, provide tips to avoid common Research Management System (RMS) issues and explain the general process for submitting your final, approved application to the funding agency. The CSM Grant Development will remain on the line following the presentation to answer your questions

February 20, 2024 | 1:00 pm- 1:30 pm (Q&A 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm) | [Register](#)

FEBRUARY 2024 SSHRC CONNECTION GRANT

Connection Grants are expected to respond to the objectives of the Research Partnerships program.

These grants support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and engage with participants on research issues they value.

Connection Grants support workshops, colloquiums, conferences, forums, summer institutes or other events or outreach activities that facilitate:

- Disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary exchanges in the social sciences and humanities.
- Scholarly exchanges between those working in the social sciences and humanities and those working in other research fields.
- Intersectoral exchanges between academic researchers in the social sciences and humanities and researchers and practitioners from the public, private and/or not-for-profit sectors.
- International research collaboration and scholarly exchanges with researchers, students and non-academic partners from other countries.
- RSO Internal Deadline: January 29, 2024 - Noon

If you are planning to apply and have questions contact Clint Westgard. clint.westgard@ucalgary.ca